

News from the Corps

Sent: Fri 12/5/08 at 1:04 PM

Hello from the US Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District:

The Buffalo District is pleased to announce that a new project for the former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) Site has been funded by the Defense Environmental Restoration Program – Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) for Fiscal Year 2009.

This project is a focused archival search regarding munitions handling operations at the former LOOW during and after World War II. The objective of this project is to search out, secure, evaluate, and share with the public all available historical documents on this topic. This will help provide factual answers to community concerns on munitions issues, including the operations of the Northeast Chemical Warfare Depot at the LOOW from 1944 – 1945 and the reported discovery of empty phosgene gas cylinders on the LOOW in the 1970s.

This project will be executed by the Corp's national ordnance experts, historians, and archivists from the St. Louis District. Additional details are provided in a fact sheet posted to the LOOW project website at:

<http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/derpfuds/loow/index.htm#Documents>

In preparing for this project the Buffalo District secured a copy of the official *History of the Northeast Chemical Warfare Depot, June 1944 – August 1945* prepared by the Office of the Chief, Chemical Warfare Service, Washington D.C. after World War II. This document details the operations of the depot and has also been posted to our website in the Investigation Reports section at the link above.

The public is encouraged to send us any questions or input regarding this project.

The Buffalo District seeks to share "News from the Corps" email updates with the widest possible audience. If you are aware of anyone that might be interested in receiving these updates, please ask them to contact us at: derpfuds@usace.army.mil and ask to be added to our email distribution list. "News from the Corps" emails are also maintained on our project website for public availability.